



TAYLOR: A FIFTH GENERATION FARMER WILL ALWAYS PROTECT WATER SUPPLIES

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Angus Taylor, the Liberal Candidate for Hume, last night attended a community forum in Picton to inform residents about coal seam gas production in the area. Mr Taylor has previously highlighted his strong opposition to coal seam activity that poses a threat to water supplies, prime agricultural land or residential areas.

Mr Taylor said:

“Last night’s meeting showed the strength of opinion in our community about the problems that CSG might pose locally, and it is clear that those concerns are not going away.

“I have said time and again that I share the concerns of residents in Wollondilly and the Southern Highlands about their amenity and interference in water supplies.

“The federal coalition supports the recent State government announcement implementing a 2km exclusion zone, and acknowledges there remains a question about whether this zone is sufficient.

“The coalition’s position is that we will do whatever is necessary support the integrity of protect water supplies. That is why at a federal level we have strongly supported the formation of an expert panel to address this issue.”

Mr Taylor said that he would use his experience in the energy sector to make sure that the coalition gets the policy settings for gas extraction in Australia right:

“I have made the point repeatedly that there is no shortage of gas (away from sensitive areas like Wollondilly and the Southern Highlands - especially in far western Queensland, Northern South Australia, Bass Strait and offshore of Gippsland). We have enough gas in these places to avoid threats to aquifers or prime agricultural land, whilst meeting our needs.

“This is why it is madness to expand coal seam gas in areas around the Sydney Basin if these expansions pose any threat to water supplies”

Mr Taylor said he was committed to doing what was necessary and would “not stand idly by” merely hoping that coal seam gas does not cause problems in Wollondilly:

“As a fifth generation farmer, and having grown up at a place entirely reliant on bore water, there could be no one more concerned than me about protecting the integrity of our water supplies. I know first-hand that if water is depleted or compromised, it can ruin entire communities.

“I have been working closely with Jai Rowell MP on this issue, and I will continue to fight for the interests of the Wollondilly community.”

Please contact Angus Taylor on 0413 963 113